

serving the Irish immigrants who met at Patrick Potts' farmhouse for Sunday services, it has maintained a long and noble tradition of active participation in community life. Holy Name Parish has made a vital contribution to local education. It has provided tens of thousands of children with an exceptional education grounded in the values of faith, tradition and spirit. Holy Name established the first co-educational parochial school in Cleveland. The institution was early to recognize the true value of education for all, irrespective gender.

Its role in providing for the needy represents a true and honorable expression of human values. For the people of the Harvard and Broadway area, it has become a place in which their hopes and dreams may thrive and prosper. Clearly the great significance of such services must be duly honored.

With such a formidable history Holy Name's significant role in community life will continue to be as healthy and vibrant as ever in the new Millennium. My fellow colleagues, please stand with me in honoring the outstanding work of Holy Name Parish.

HONORING JOHN FREW

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor the considerable efforts of my friend, John Frew, during his accomplished tenure at Colorado Ski Country USA, the distinguished association that represents Colorado's ski industry. Recently, John announced that he was stepping down as its President and CEO. As John moves on, I would like to take this opportunity to thank and pay tribute to him for his dedicated service.

You don't have to know much about the great State of Colorado to know that skiing is an important part of who we are, both economically and culturally. For years, Colorado Ski Country USA has been the unified voice of this important industry. And when this already highly regarded organization hired John Frew, that voice only got stronger.

Colorado Ski Country USA brought John in to strengthen the operation, increasing its visibility and stepping up its role in the public policy arena. As someone in that arena, Mr. Speaker, I can say without hesitation to John: mission accomplished. Under John's leadership, Colorado Ski Country USA has thrived and for that the entire State of Colorado is grateful.

It is with this that I say congratulations to John on his successful stint with Ski Country USA and wish him all the best as he returns to Brownstein, Hyatt & Farber P.C.A.

John, your community, state and nation are thankful for your service.

UNION BANK OF CALIFORNIA RECOGNIZED BY SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EFFORTS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Union Bank of California on receiving the Secretary of Labor's Opportunity 2000 Award. This award is presented annually by the U.S. Labor department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs to Federal contractors and public interest groups with exceptional equal employment opportunity programs. The Union Bank of California has been selected for its programs for hiring and promoting women, minorities and those with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that Labor Secretary Alexis M. Herman has recognized Union Bank of California for its efforts. I join her in commending Union Bank on this long history of service, and I congratulate the Bank and its officers on receiving the Opportunity 2000 award for outstanding leadership in its equal opportunity programs.

Mr. Speaker, since its founding in San Francisco on July 5, 1864, Union Bank has made it its business to be more than just a successful bank; it has sought to be an integral contributor in advancing our common interests. This sense of community service took its earliest form in developing the infrastructure and trade of the West coast in the late 19th century. Union Bank helped fund the completion of the coast-to-coast railroad; it invested in early exploration of Alaska leading to its purchase by the U.S.; it financed the building of California's first large-scale Central Valley irrigation project; and it negotiated trade between the United States and Japan. These achievements demonstrate that the Union Bank of California has, from the beginning, had its priorities rooted in the welfare of the public.

And, it is clear from its receiving the Opportunity 2000 award, that those priorities have not changed. Today, Mr. Speaker, Union Bank's commitment to a better future is founded in its belief in the value of a diverse workforce. This has literally shaped the entire nature of the company, from its board of directors to entry-level employees. Boasting 7 minorities out of 17 members on its board of directors, Union Bank has quadrupled the number of women and doubled the number of minorities since 1996. These efforts by Union Bank represent a unique commitment in corporate America that it makes both good business sense and good moral sense to strive for including all in employment opportunities.

Takahiro Moriguchi, President and CEO of Union Bank of California, expressed the Bank's enlightened view: "By searching for talent from among the disabled, both genders, veterans, all ethnic groups and all nationalities, we gain access to a pool of ideas, energy and creativity as wide and varied as the human race itself. I expect diversity will become even more important as the world gradually becomes a truly global marketplace." This type of leadership and this kind of

vision have earned Union Bank the top position in Fortune Magazine's listing of "The 50 Best Companies for Asians, Blacks, and Hispanics."

Union Bank is clearly a trend setter, and I hope it can serve as inspiration and motivation to the rest of corporate America to realize how aggressively promoting equal employment opportunity programs is in the best interests of both corporate and non-corporate America.

Mr. Speaker, Union Bank has always been focused on the betterment of society, whether it be the development of the infrastructure and trade in the west or the development of equal opportunity programs that help unleash the talent of a workforce previously held back by discrimination. Union Bank should be commended for this dedication to social progress, and I congratulate the bank and its officers upon receiving Secretary of Labor Herman's Opportunities 2000 Award.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of men and women who, throughout the history of this great nation, have served valiantly during times of wars and peace. The U.S. Merchant Marine fleet and the people who crew it, are a critical component of the economic strength and national security of America. From the earliest days of the Revolutionary War, when Merchant ships carried goods to Colonial outposts, through recent operations in Yugoslavia, merchant sailors have sailed into harms way to provide support to the Armed Forces by carrying the equipment, supplies, and personnel necessary to maintain war efforts. Numerous members of the United States Merchant Marine have made the ultimate sacrifice to help secure peace and freedom. During World War II the Merchant Marine had the greatest percentage of lives lost of any military service, with the exception of the Marine Corps. Included in that loss were 142 cadet-midshipmen from the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

There are Merchant Mariners and Merchant Marine Veterans all across this great nation, even in the land-locked 17th District of Texas, and those of us who live there are safer because of their service and dedication. The Merchant Marine's role in the defense of this nation is under-recognized. Few people realize that in Operation Desert Storm, over 95 percent of the equipment, goods, and ammunition used were carried to the theater by the American Merchant Marine. This resolution serves as a means to honor their service, and I join my colleagues in applauding Rep. KUYKENDALL's work to bring this matter before this Body today. I also would like to take this time to pay tribute to Representative BATEMAN, who was one of the biggest supporters of the American Merchant Marine. His passing is a great loss to this Body and this Nation.

At a time the people of the United States are benefitting more than ever before from the